

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

World CleanTech StartUPs Awards 2023 Honor "water stuff & sun GmbH" for Revolutionary Hydrogen Storage Solution

Newly instituted "Paddy Padmanathan Award" honor innovators and visionary disruptors in clean technology

Paris, France; Dubai, UAE, June 27,2023 - The World CleanTech StartUPs Awards 2023 (WCSA2023) - Visionary Technology Disruptor (Paddy Padmanathan Award) concluded with resounding success, spotlighting the most innovative cleantech startups from around the world. With an impressive participation of 32 startups representing 21 countries across 5 continents, the competition showcased a diverse range of clean and disruptive technologies, including solar, storage, hydrogen, clean water, smart energy, e-mobility, IoT, AI, and more.

Powered by ACWA Power with strategic partnerships with Dii Desert Energy, CEA-INES (The French Solar Energy Institute), and the CleanTech Business Club, the WCSA2023 Awards judging panel included industry experts and leading CleanTech entrepreneurs. Their collective expertise ensured a rigorous evaluation process and the selection of the most deserving winners.

The WCSA2023 jury faced the challenging task of selecting the finalists among a pool of exceptional entries. The final hearing took place during the first day of The Smarter E event in Munich, where the top 5 finalists underwent rigorous evaluation.

We are thrilled to announce that "water stuff & sun GmbH" has emerged as the winner of the World CleanTech StartUPs Awards 2023. Their groundbreaking solution, "Reshaping the way we store, distribute, and use renewables with SFEERS and the hydrogen battery," garnered unanimous acclaim from the jury for its transformative potential in revolutionizing energy storage.

Thomas Altmann, Executive Vice President - Innovation & New Technology at ACWA Power and Co-Chair of the Awards, highlighted why "water stuff & sun GmbH" was chosen as the winner, stating, "Their solution represents a significant advancement in

hydrogen storage technology. By combining the power of SFEERS and the hydrogen battery, they have set a new standard in reshaping the storage, distribution, and utilization of renewables. As the leading developer, ACWA Power will recognize the winner and provide the opportunity to visit our offices in Dubai and meet our experts, supporting the next steps of idea development and innovation."

In addition to the winner, we would like to acknowledge the exceptional achievements of the WCSA2023 Finalists. These remarkable startups, recognized for their contributions to clean technology innovation, are:

- Kiru Energy Limited (Nigeria) for their "Mini-Grid in the City™ (MGC)"
- SkyH2O Inc. (USA) for their "Water security, sustainability, and resilience"
- Advanced Dynamics Limited (Bangladesh) for their "Cassetex is a network of solarpowered battery swapping stations for 1.5+ million electric last-mile vehicles in Bangladesh"
- Aed Energy Ltd (UK) for their "Lowering the cost of decarbonized power & heat"

Looking ahead, Prof. Anis Jouini, CEO of CEA-INES (The French Solar Energy Institute), CBC Chair of CleanTech StartUp Hub, and Chair of the Awards, shared insights into the future of the World CleanTech StartUPs Awards. She stated, "After the summer holiday, we will kickstart our CBC CleanTech StartUp Hub Mentoring Masterclasses and launch more activities focused on helping startups scale up. Additionally, we are excited to announce that we are planning the 1st World CleanTech StartUps Summit in the middle of 2024, accompanied by Face-to-Face pitching sessions, Masterclasses, and the WCSA2024 Awards Gala Ceremony. Next year's edition of the Awards will feature more categories devoted to specific technologies."

The Awards Ceremony, held in Munich on June 14, 2023, at the "Dii Get Together" cohosted by TÜV SÜD, was an extraordinary celebration of innovation and collaboration. This prestigious gathering brought together industry leaders and experts who witnessed the exceptional innovations shaping the clean technology landscape. Cornelius Matthes, CEO of Dii Desert Energy, CBC Chair for the Middle East, and the Awards Jury member, expressed his delight, saying, "It was a special moment to see the winner awarded in Munich during an amazing event, which is the city where Dii was founded in 2009. Emission free technologies present the most exciting investment opportunity in history and innovative entrepreneurs will play a crucial role in resolving many of the challenges to implement an accelerated energy transformation."

Thomas Korn, CEO of "water stuff & sun GmbH," shared his thoughts on how winning the WCSA2023 will accelerate their journey to scale up, stating, "This award is a significant milestone for us, and it will undoubtedly propel our efforts to reshape the storage, distribution, and utilization of renewables. With the support and recognition from the World CleanTech StartUPs Awards, we are confident in making a profound impact."

We extend our heartfelt congratulations to "water stuff & sun GmbH" for their exceptional achievement and commend all the finalists for their groundbreaking contributions. These startups exemplify the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that drives the clean technology revolution.

For more information about the World CleanTech StartUPs Awards 2023 and the participating startups, please visit www.worldcleantechawards.com/wcsa2023

About the Awards:

The World CleanTech StartUPs Awards (formerly a part of the <u>World CleanTech Awards</u>), is an annual global competition that acknowledges and honors the most disruptive CleanTech startups across the globe. The competition strives to motivate and foster growth within the CleanTech industry by granting startups an opportunity to exhibit their innovative and disruptive solutions and attain acknowledgement for their endeavors in constructing a more sustainable and regenerative future.

WCSA2023 webpage: visit here

Contact WCSA2023 Secretariat: email us here

WCSA2023 logo: download here

ACWA Power website - <u>visit here</u>
Dii Desert Energy website - <u>visit here</u>
CleanTech Business Club website - <u>visit here</u>
CEA-INES website - <u>visit here</u>

Kiru Energy Limited - <u>visit here</u>
water stuff & sun GmbH - <u>visit here</u>
SkyH2O Inc. - <u>visit here</u>
Advanced Dynamics Limited - <u>visit here</u>
Aed Energy Ltd (UK) - <u>visit here</u>

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WCSA2023 Finalists digital banner/photo: download here



WCSA2023 Ceremony Photo Gallery: visit here (The WCSA2023 Winner - click here)

